Table of Contents

1. Warriors: The Three Kits
2. Prologue
3. Chapter 1
4. Chapter 2
5. Chapter 3
6. Chapter 4
7. Chapter 5
8. Chapter 6
9. Chapter 7
10. Chapter 8
11. Chapter 9
12. Chapter 10
13. Chapter 11
14. Chapter 12
15. Chapter 13
16. Chapter 14
17. Chapter 15
18. Chapter 16
19. Chapter 17
20. Chapter 18
21. Chapter 19
22. Chapter 20

Warriors: The Three Kits

Authors Note:

Hey guys! So this book is a fan fiction story. Based on Erin Hunters, "Warrior Cats". But, this version is different(duh). This is based way before my OC warrior cat character is born. This is just when her mother, Heatherbell, this time its Heatherkit, and her sisters are born. This story is full of mystery. The beginning isn't the best because I started to write the story in 2010 when I was around 10 or 11(I have edited it) and it may seem a little boring but my writing and my creative mind has improved so it gets much better later on.

pfft, and in case you were all wondering, the four Clans are FireClan(where the story takes place), GhostClan, AirClan and PoolClan.

Anyway I hope you guys like the story!!!! :)

Prologue

Mist covered the field where cats were starting to gather around, waiting for the news of the three. “The prophecy has come!” A dark orange she-cat cried out on a high rock to the gathering StarClan cats.

“But how do we know it’s for them Fire? It can’t be! It just can’t be them!” A small tabby brown tom called out, his voice was filled with terror and disbelief.

Fire glared down at him, “Silence Adderfoot! I know it is them.” She yelled. “I have foreseen this event many times before. The three kits are the ones. They have come!”

Then a black tabby she-cat spoke up from the crowd of ancient FireClan cats, “She is right. May I tell the prophecy?”

“Yes you may Darkswift.” Fire answered nodding. She stepped to the side so Darkswift can walk up.

“Thank you Fire.” Darkswift spoke more loudly and looked down on the cats, “One of the three will give birth to the most powerful kit ever. One of the three will abandon their Clan to follow love. And one of the three will be able to walk in others dreams.”

“But these kits haven’t even been born yet!! A fluffy white tom screeched from the crowd, and everyone turned to him. “What if it’s wrong? What if the prophecy is meant for Leapordnose’s three kits? They’re already born! What if you heard the prophecy wrong? It can’t be meant for kits that are not born yet!” He yelled frantically. Fire sighed. She was feeling frustrated from all this nonsense, the three were coming.

“Whitecloud is right. These unborn kits can’t be the kits the prophecy’s talking about! No prophecy has ever been set for unborn cats!” A black she-cat cried. The room started to fill up with

protesters. All the arguing and yelling tired Fire out and she didn't know what to do.

"Silence," Darkswift yelled out, still standing next to Fire and her claws dug into the starry ground. "As FireClan's former medicine cat, I think that we should respect on what Fire, FireClan's first ever leader, has to say. These unborn kits will be born soon, and the prophecy is for them. No complaining, no arguing. We have set the prophecy to be for them, and that is final!" She yelled. Her golden brown eyes were stern and glaring down at everyone. Her voice was cold and would make you feel uncomfortable near her. She would not tolerate on how the StarClan cats were behaving. Especially with the fact that they will not believe what Fire has to say, or what she has planned for the future of her old Clan.

"Thank you Darkswift." Fire started. She too, felt the same as Darkswift. It was easy for Fire to tell how others were feeling, and by looking into Darkswift's eyes and telling by her voice, she was pretty upset. "Ambertail, come here now please." She continued searching for the amber colored cat.

"Yes Fire? What is it?" Ambertail asked walking up to the starry high rock where Fire and Darkswift were standing.

"A few weeks after the kits are born, I would like it if you went down back to FireClan to give them the message. Please, do not fail me. We are all counting on you." Fire said, her amber eyes burned with determination.

"Yes Fire. I'll do as told." Ambertail replied dipping her head at Fire. "I would do whatever I can to keep FireClan strong. Including the three other Clans GhostClan, PoolClan and AirClan." She made that promise, for she, died helping her Clan, which she called home.

Fire knew she had made the right choice on putting Ambertail in charge of these three. She just hoped she made the right choice.

Chapter 1

The rain splashed hard on the rock outside the FireClan nursery as the cats gathered around it, not minding that their fur was getting wet. They all wanted to be there for when Ladyfierce gives birth to her kits.

“I can’t do this anymore!” Ladyfierce yelled. It was her first time giving birth, and she was scared and terrified.

“Don’t worry Ladyfierce” Moonflower, the golden she-cat with odd silver stripes said. Her beautiful blue eyes shimmered with hope and glory. Ladyfierce knew she can trust her; Moonflower has helped queens give birth several times before, and wasn’t going to give up now. Her new apprentice, Goldenpaw stood by her and helped the whole time.

Ladyfierce was obviously worried about the fact that her kits are coming out. It’s always a big deal when a queen gives birth. The pain swept through her body due to the fact that her kits are pushing her belly trying to get out. Her mate Birdbreath sat real close to her as she delivered her kits into the new world.

Feeling like moons have passed, finely the first one came out. “A golden-brown tabby she-cat!” Moonflower yelled so the whole Clan can hear, as its tradition to do that. “She’s a strong one.” Moonflower said as she smiled. Soon the second one popped out. “A tabby brown she-cat” Moonflower yelled again.

“How many more!” Ladyfierce screeched in pain. She couldn’t take this pain anymore, but it lessened at the kits came out. Moonflower rested her paw on Ladyfierce’s belly. Moonflower then studied it, trying to figure out how many more.

“Just one more,” Moonflowers said, her voice sounded calm and sweet.

“You can do it.” The voice of Whitewing came. Her voice was

soothing and helped Ladyfierce calm down a bit. “You already delivered two. You can do one more. You know you can.” She too was expecting kits but they weren’t due for another two moons or so.

The third kit soon came out. It was the smallest and probably the weakest of the litter of three. “A white she-cat” yelled Moonflower. She then licked the kit clean.

“They’re all strong she-cats.” Sassytail, one of the other queens who already gave birth said. “Congratulations on three new strong healthy kits.” She said and smiled, and started licking her own kits Bossykit and Cattykit.

One week has passed and Heatherkit looked up as Leapordnose walked in to ask Ladyfierce the same question she has been asking the past week.

“Have you chosen out there names yet?” Leapordnose asked as her eyes gleamed with hope. As of what Heatherkit figured out, Leapordnose has come into the den about every day since her birth so far just to help pick names for her and her sisters. Heatherkit also realized that she lived about a week with no name, and her eyes have just opened this morning, along with her sisters, Hawkkit and Wildkit.

“Yes. I finally chose out the names last night.” Ladyfierce began, “I call the golden-brown tabby one Hawkkit, who is also the oldest, the tabby brown one Heatherkit, who is the middle, and the white one Wildkit, who is the youngest, as you can probably tell. Aren’t they cute names? I just thought of them.”

“Yes they are.” Heatherkit jumped up hearing a voice behind her, “Birdbreath!” she called out to her father. “You made me jump. Please do not sneak up on me!” Heatherkit said and began to purr.

“I see that they opened their eyes.” Birdbreath explained. “And I’m sorry Heatherkit, didn’t mean to scare you like that.” He then added in.

Heatherkit eagerly stood up, “Could we play outside? I’ve

opened my eyes finally. And so have Hawkkit and Wildkit!"

"Yeah." Hawkkit and Wildkit agreed standing up.

"It will be nice to have them out of the nursery to get some fresh air." Ladyfierce said, smiling at the kits.

As Heatherkit scrambled out of the nursery with her sisters, Ladyfierce added, "Don't go too far, and introduce yourself to all the cats in the Clan, including Firestar! She would love to meet you three."

"And stay together. Don't wander off!" Birdbreath called out too.

"They worry about us too much. We're capable on our own, I'm pretty sure we are." Heatherkit whispered to her sisters. Her sisters chuckled and murmured in agreement.

"Hey, it's Bossykit and Cattykit!" Wildkit squeaked. "Maybe they can show us around! Plus, I think they are playing some kind of game." Wildkit said and began to take off towards them. Hawkkit followed squealing with excitement.

As Heatherkit followed her sisters over to Bossykit and Cattykit, she felt as if someone was following her. Heatherkit turned around and saw no one. She began to feel nervous, but continued to follow her sisters. Heatherkit then heard more footsteps behind her, and she began to feel uncomfortable. *"Get your sisters."* She heard.

Heatherkit turned around and spotted a cat. One she's never seen before. Then again, she hasn't seen most of the cats in the Clan yet. "Hi, who are you? What's your name?" Heatherkit asked the strange amber she-cat.

"If you want to know who I am get your sisters. I have a message from StarClan." She said.

Heatherkit's eyes lit up with excitement and astonishment. "You're from StarClan? What's your warrior name? Which Clan were you from?" Heatherkit then thought to herself and that it was obvious that this cat was from FireClan. She didn't know much

about StarClan, but at least now she knows it's real.

"Yes I'm from StarClan. I'm called Ambertail. I came from this Clan, obviously. Now get your sisters! We need to talk, now! She yelled.

Heatherkit nodded. "Okay, stay here then." She said and ran towards her sisters to tell them the news. "Hey, Wildkit, Hawkkit, come on. I need to show you something."

"Oh, why do we have to go now?" Wildkit wailed. "We were about to play a game."

"Yeah, and who made you in charge? Because last time I checked, Ladyfierce and Birdbreath are in charge of us, our parents." Hawkkit said sulking.

"A StarClan warrior put me in charge." Heatherkit answered quickly before her sisters ran back to Bossykit and Cattykit to play their game, which will be pretty mean.

"You met a StarClan warrior! Why didn't you say so! Let's go then!" Wildkit screeched, obviously excited to meet Ambertail.

"Her name's Ambertail. She has a message for us, and needs to talk to us now." Heatherkit said and stopped walking at the spot where she left Ambertail waiting.

"Where is she?" Hawkkit asked looking around. "Were you lying to us?" Heatherkit noticed Hawkkit's hazel-brown eyes burning with fury.

"No, I'm not lying." Heatherkit said. "I really met a StarClan warrior! Honestly, I really did." Heatherkit said looking around. "But why isn't she here?" She then murmured so that her sisters couldn't hear. *Ambertail, where are you? You had a message for us.*

Chapter 2

"You said there was a StarClan warrior here. You did lie to us, did you?" Wildkit shrieked. Her eyes started to tear up. "If you didn't lie, then this so called StarClan warrior would be here, but she's not!"

"No, I didn't lie! She was right there! I'm telling the truth, you have to believe me!" Heatherkit started to cry as well. *Was I just seeing and hearing things?* Heatherkit then thought to herself. It could be true; she is still young and does have a big imagination.

She then heard Ambertail's voice in her head, *"Go to sleep in the nursery with your sisters. I will send all three of you the message in your dreams. It's too dangerous to tell you three out here in camp."*

Heatherkit gave a slight not and followed her sisters who were already headed towards the nursery.

"Ladyfierce, Birdbreath!" Hawkkit yelled as she ran into the nursery. Wildkit sat down next to her as Heatherkit slowly walked in. "Heatherkit has been lying to us." Hawkkit finally said.

"She has?" Whitewing asked looking shocked at this news.

"Yeah, she said a StarClan warrior had to talk to us! But no one was there. So she lied to us!" Wildkit said with anger as she got into the nest.

Heatherkit looked at Whitewing and noticed that she was looking bigger than ever. Her belly was swollen with kits which were due soon. Her mate Grayeye was the nursery curled around her, asleep.

"Heatherkit, is this true? You know you're not allowed to lie. A good warrior always has to tell the truth, no matter what the situation is." Ladyfierce said.

Heatherkit just looked at her mother, her eyes gleaming with annoyance. She then looked away.

“Answer your mother Heatherkit.” Birdbreath then said sounding annoyed.

Heatherkit just ignored her father and went in to the nest to sleep. She closed her eyes and tried to block out all the sound, but not really any use.

“She’s just trying to get away from this because she feels guilty.” Hawkkit snorted.

Oh, why don’t they believe me? Heatherkit thought. *Then again, they didn’t see the StarClan warrior, but I wouldn’t tell a lie.* Heatherkit then curled up in her cozy nest and tried to sleep. She also overheard her mother telling her sisters to get some rest too. Heatherkit was finally able to fall asleep after that, and she dreamed.

“Heatherkit, Heatherkit! Wake up.”

Heatherkit woke up, though she was still sleepy. “Huh? Where am I? This isn’t the nursery.” She looked around still tired trying to figure out where she was. Then it hit her, this must be the dream Ambertail was going to visit her in and her sisters in to tell them the message.

“Heatherkit, could you wake your sisters. I need to tell you the prophecy.”

Heatherkit looked up at the talking cat. “Ambertail, I knew you didn’t leave me!” She said with happiness in her tone.

Ambertail looked at her, her brown eyes showing that she was serious about something. “Now, go wake your sisters. We really need to talk. This is important.”

Heatherkit nodded and ran to her sisters and tried to wake them up, not too hard, so they could be awake in the dream. Not in real life. “Wildkit, Hawkkit. Wake up. This is a dream and the StarClan warrior is here. No lie. Please wake up.” She looked back

behind her and Ambertail was still there. *Good.* She thought. *Now Hawkkit and Wildkit will have to believe me.*

Wildkit got up, her eyes looking sleepy. “Oh, come on. I was in the middle of the best dream ever. I was in the forest, and I caught a whole fox to give to the Clan and I immediately became a warrior. Why did—” Her voice trailed off and she looked around frantically. “Where are we? This isn’t the nursery! Did Ladyfierce and Birdbreath abandon us?” Her icy blue eyes started to tear up and she started to wail.

“Stop it! This is a dream. The StarClan warrior is here to give us a message.” Heatherkit meowed to reassure her sister.

Wildkit looked up, beginning to look calm. “You mean Ladyfierce and Birdbreath didn’t abandon us? And you weren’t lying to us about the StarClan warrior?

Heatherkit looked at Wildkit in shock, “Of course not. How could you even think that? Ladyfierce and Birdbreath would *never* abandon us. Anyway, let’s wake up Hawkkit, okay?”

“Okay.” Wildkit meowed quietly.

Heatherkit walked over to Hawkkit and tried to wake her up. “Hawkkit, Hawkkit! Wake up. Wake up!”

Hawkkit started to get up and shook her head. “Huh? What, where are we?” She started to look around the place they were in. “This is so not the nursery. And who’s that starry amber cat over there? Did she take us? Are you two playing a joke on me? What’s going on?” She growled.

Heatherkit and Wildkit looked at each other and back at Hawkkit. Then Ambertail walked over to the three kits. “Hello. My name is Ambertail. I am a StarClan warrior. FireClan’s first ever leader Fire sent me to speak with you three about something very important.”

Chapter 3

Hawkkit got up looking pretty angry, "About what?" Then she looked over at her sisters. "Okay. What kind of joke is this? Wait till I get back to camp and tell Ladyfierce and Birdbreath. They'll be worried sick about us."

Heatherkit stood up and hissed, "Why do you always have to assume that I'm lying? You're so mouse-brained!!" She got ready to leap on Hawkkit but Ambertail stopped her in time.

"This place is not for fighting. This is the path that leads to StarClan."

Wildkit's eyes lit up. "Wow. So if we go any further, we'll be in the path of StarClan."

Ambertail looked down at her. "Correct. This is the path to StarClan. I have brought you here in your dreams the give you this prophecy, 'One of you three will give birth to the most powerful kit ever. One of you three will abandon their Clan to follow love. And one of you three will be-able to walk in others dreams.' Now remember, you three are destined. Do not break apart or your Clan will utterly fall to its doom."

All three kits looked at each other, eyes looked shocked, and mouths dropped open and said, "Wow."

Ignoring the last thing Ambertail said, Heatherkit walked up to her and asked, "Um…do you mind telling us which of us is destined for what?"

Ambertail's brown eyes met Heatherkit's brown eyes. "Sorry, dear one. I cannot say that. You shall find out your destiny on your own." Then Ambertail faded away. Her sweet sent filling the area around her.

Heatherkit suddenly woke up in her cozy nest, still thinking

about Ambertail's prophecy. Her last words were still ringing in her mind, *"you shall find out your destiny on your own." What did it mean? Well, of course it meant that she has to search for the answers, but still.* She could not stop wondering about what Ambertail said, especially about the part with her Clan utterly falling apart. It was all too mysterious for a young kit to know.

"Hawkkit, I bet I'm the one who's going to give birth to the powerful kit." Wildkit scampered. "I will never give up my Clan to follow stupid love. I'm going to be Clan leader. Plus, walking in others dreams is *lame*!"

"No! I'm going to be Clan leader!" Hawkkit screeched. Then she leaped on Wildkit and the two started to play fight.

No. I want to be the Clan leader. But for now, I have to follow my destiny. Right now, all I care about is the prophecy. Heatherkit thought. She then got up to play with her sisters. "You want to go outside?" she asked.

"Sure" said Wildkit. "We didn't get much time outside yesterday.

"Okay!" Hawkkit said, and then left the nursery and ran outside.

Heatherkit followed her sisters out of the den. While outside, Heatherkit began to feel weird and different from the day before so she stopped when her paws started tingle, making her feel a bit odd.

"What's wrong, Heatherkit?" Wildkit asked walking up to her sister. She looked at Heatherkit with her icy blue eyes with a confused and worried look on her face.

"Nothing," Heatherkit answered and she then shook. She thought that it just was a coincidence that a young kit would feel different only the second day outside. So she decided to not worry much. "Nothing's wrong. I'm just thinking about the prophecy."

"Okay then, suit yourself." Wildkit began, "Come on, I want

to meet the Clan leader!"

"Are you coming or not?" Hawkkit asked looking back at them.

"Where coming!" Wildkit called back and raced over towards her older sister.

"I'll be right there!" Heatherkit called out and began to think. *Now, if only I could find out which I'm destined for, everything will be all right. I wonder if I could travel through others dreams. Or, find love from another Clan. No, that won't be it. So far, I'm much too loyal to FireClan. But, I might give birth to the powerful kit. Ugh, why does everything have to be so confusing? I'm only a little kit!* The sound of her sister's voice cut her out of her thoughts.

"Come on Heatherkit!" Hawkkit yelled. "I'm getting tired of waiting, so it Wildkit!"

"Coming," Heatherkit called and caught up with her sisters. "Where are we going?" She then asked, wondering what den they were going to check out first.

"Where going to see the camp, what do you expect?" Hawkkit said, and then continued, "We are just going to explore the camp. Check out a few dens and meet some cats." Then she smiled, her hazel-brown eyes glowing with excitement.

Heatherkit rolled her eyes, "Whatever you say. I'm pretty sure we are going to get in trouble."

Hawkkit just glared at Heatherkit, but said nothing and walked away.

"There she goes again." Wildkit meowed looking a bit frustrated. "You really had to make her angry now, didn't you?"

"So what," Heatherkit protested and sat down. "It doesn't really matter anyway." She said and padded away to explore the camp, leaving Wildkit behind. *I'm going to explore the camp alone. I want to think about the prophecy without any interruptions, and being alone is the perfect place to think.* She thought and walked to a den,

and sniffed around.

“What are you doing over here?” A blue-gray she cat meowed in front of her. “Shouldn’t you be in the nursery?”

Heatherkit looked up. “Oh, sorry” she backed away. “I was just exploring.”

“It’s ok.” The blue-gray cat meowed and put on a warm-hearted smile. “I’m Featherpaw. Aren’t you one of Ladyfierce’s kits?”

Heatherkit looked at Featherpaw curiously. “Yeah, I’m Heatherkit. Is that the apprentice’s den?

“Yup,” Featherpaw replied. “It’s quite a big den, isn’t it?” She said and looked around.

“Yeah, it’s not as big as the nursery though.” Heatherkit said. Her paws tingled with excitement to explore more of the camp. “Well, I’ll see you later. I’m going to explore more of the camp!” She smiled and then padded off. *Ok,* She thought. *Where should I go next? Nursery and apprentice den covered, now,* she looked around and spotted a den. Bossykit and Cattykit were in it. *It must be the elders den!* She thought. *I heard that they always have great stories.* She thought and ran over to the den a bit excited.

“And that’s the legion on how FireClan came to be.” A white she cat said looking down at the two kits.

“Wow.” Bossykit started. “That was very interesting Whitefur. Oh hi Heatherkit,” She then said turning to Heatherkit and smiled.

“Hey. So, could I hear the story?” Heatherkit asked.

“Sure thing,” Whitefur said. “Come sit by me, and I’ll start.”

Heatherkit padded over to Whitefur. She couldn’t wait to hear the story.

“Okay, let’s begin.” Whitefur started and Heatherkit waited

for her to begin.

“FireClan has been in this territory for many seasons. The volcano has been here for who knows how long. Legion has it that once it erupted, destroying everything in its path. When the land restored itself, four cats came to the area with many other cats, and started the four Clans. This dark orange she cat, called Fire, chose this spot where we are now. After that, the volcano never erupted again. It is now extinct and it holds the best place for prey. And till this day, it lays in FireClan territory. The volcano gave this Clan its name, FireClan. Though it still has magma inside, it hasn’t erupted for a very long time. And It might never erupt again. So, when Fire started building the Clan, things were going swell. Everything was peaceful, and beautiful. As time went by, Fire fell in love and had four kits. Two she-kits and two toms. They grew into strong warriors. And over time, the four Clans started fighting nonstop. Then, StarClan got furious. They took several lives of the cats. Many harmed and hurt. So, they decided to have one day, on the full moon of every moon, where they would meet, with no fighting. StarClan soon set the rules of the cats, The Warrior Code. You live by the Code. And you will Die by the Code.”

Heatherkit looked up. She was fascinated by this short story. “Is it done Whitefur?” She then asked getting up.

“Yes,” Whitefur answered. “Stop by later for another story if you want. We elders love to tell them.”

“Okay.” Heatherkit replied. She walked out of the elders den, feeling different from before. *I will make my Clan strong.* She thought. *I'll try to be the best female warrior there can ever be!*

Chapter 4

"*Heatherkit, Heatherkit! Wake up! It's morning.*"

Heatherkit woke up with a jolt. She looked up and saw her sister Wildkit there, trying to wake her up, "Morning already?"

"Yup, wake up sleepy head. It's past Sun High." Wildkit said and smiled.

"Oh. So...why wake me up?" Heatherkit asked as she began to sit up.

"Well, we wanted to play with you!" Wildkit said with an excited tone in her voice.

Heatherkit ears pricked up and she looked at her sister, "We? So, Hawkkit is going to come along?"

"Of course silly, she's our sister." Wildkit said happily.

"Okay then. Well let me get something to eat first, I'm pretty hungry." Heatherkit spoke with disappointment in her tone. She got up and left the nursery. Her stomach growled with hunger. She padded over to the fresh kill pile in a mini cave so in case it rains, the food won't get wet.

Heatherkit then saw Cattykit run up to her, "Hey, hey, hey! So, what are you doing?" Cattykit asked sitting down next to Heatherkit who was looking for something to eat in the pile.

"Nothing really," Heatherkit replied. "Just getting something to eat." She said and chose a small vole and started chewing on it.

"Okay," Cattykit said and got up. "Well, I'll see you later." She said and ran off towards her sister Bossykit, and they started playing some game.

Heatherkit finished the vole and gulped it down. She then

ran off to her sisters who were talking about something. “So, what are we going to play?” She asked.

“Leader fights” Hawkkit answered instantly. “The rules are simple. All you have to be is a Clan leader, and we fight like where in a battle. So, I'll be Hawkstar, leader of... GhostClan I guess.”

“And I'll be Wildstar leader of AirClan!” Wildkit screeched who was jumping up and down like crazy excited to begin playing the game.

“Okay, that leaves me as Heatherstar, leader of FireClan!” Heatherkit said and smiled proudly.

“Who said you could be in FireClan?” Hawkkit asked crouching down.

“Well no one else chose FireClan so I get it! It’s fair!” Heatherkit screamed with annoyance and dug her claws into the ground. “If you wanted it, you should have called it, so get over with it! Stop being so stubborn, alright!”

“Fine,” Hawkkit yelled. “You can be the leader of FireClan. Let’s just begin the game, we have to fight about something, doesn’t matter if it’s a stupid reason or not, let’s just have fun.” She said and suddenly leaped on Wildkit and yelled, “Wildstar, how dare you invade GhostClan territory! I shall have you killed for trespassing!”

“Stop you two! Do we have to fight like this? The Volcano belongs in FireClan territory. Wildstar, I know you want it, but you can’t. And as for you Hawkstar, you might as well go in the Dark Forest for murdering a leader.” Heatherkit snapped, “And your sister.”

“Shut up Heatherstar! We split up seasons ago!” Hawkkit yelled, pretending to look angry but her light giggle gave it away.

“Though we may have split up, we are still sisters. We have our own Clans to run.” Wildkit said. “Hawkstar, stop acting like a kit, and I will stop too.”

“Oh shut up!” Hawkkit said in such a cheeky voice. “You’re the one who should be more like me! We may be kin, but you two are never going to be true sisters to me!”

“What’s going on here?” Someone yelled behind them, sounding scared and upset.

The voice startled Heatherkit. She looked up, and saw her mother Ladyfierce looking at them with hurt in her eyes. Their father was with them.

“We were just playing a game.” Wildkit said. “We didn’t mean any of that stuff. We were pretending to be leaders.” She said innocently and looked down at the ground.

Birdbreath sighed. “If you’re going to play something, play something that isn’t so mean and hurtful. You scared your mother while playing that game. And you should never use those words against each other; you three are sisters and should *never* give up on each other, even if it is just a silly game.” Birdbreath said calmly and looked over at his mate who was trembling.

Heatherkit and her sisters looked up at their parents and sighed. “We are sorry.” They then all said at once.

Heatherkit spoke up. “Let’s just play something else then, maybe something with Cattykit and Bossykit.”

“I'm bored!” Wildkit moaned rolling onto her back. “There’s nothing to do, there is nothing to do anymore!”

“Just quit your complaining! Okay. We get that you’re bored so, just shut up!” Hawkkit growled at her sister.

“And it’s already bad enough that we're not apprentices yet.” Heatherkit put in. “I hear that they always have fun, if only we were going to have our ceremony soon.” Heatherkit said feeling tired, “How about I just get us something to eat?”

“That would be nice of you Heatherkit, but I could just do it myself.” Ladyfierce said and licked Heatherkit’s head.

“Alright,” Heatherkit responded and flopped down on her stomach.

Ladyfierce walked out of the nursery and then brought back three mice and a robin for herself a few minutes later. “Eat up you three.” She said tiredly and flopped down at her side and closed her eyes.

Heatherkit guessed she was still upset about the game they played seven sunrises ago. And she had to admit, she didn't like the game that much ether.

After finishing the mouse, Heatherkit went outside to the dirt place tunnel near the camp entrance. While walking to the dirt place tunnel, she saw a cat, a strange cat she has never seen before talking with her father. *This might be a cat from another Clan.* She thought. *But why is my father talking with him. My Maybe he needs my father’s help?*

Her father and the strange cat ran to the medicine cat den. Heatherkit followed them, trying to be unseen.

“Okay.” Heatherkit heard Moonflower's voice speak to her father and the strange tabby cat.

“We'll need poppy seeds, cat mint, water mint, and maybe some jumpier berries. Who are you again?” Moonflower asked speaking with the strange tabby tom.

The tom spoke up, “The name is Tiger. As you can see, I'm not a Clan cat. I'm a loner, and my mate, Millie; she's sick with stomach pains and coughing. So I was hoping that you could help since I’ve heard of you Clan cats. My lucky day.”

“Of course,” Moonflower said and nodded her head at Tiger. “Goldenpaw, could you get the—”

“Already on it, here” Goldenpaw said and gave Tiger the medicine herbs. “Okay, so I hope your mate feels better. Bye.”

“Bye,” Tiger started and smiled. “Thanks so much for your help.” He said and ran out of the medicine cat den and left the

camp.

So sometimes cats from Clans help loners and rouges? Wow. I guess the warrior code can change sometimes. Heatherkit thought tilting her head as the cat left.

"Heatherkit, is that you?" Her father asked looking at her over the bushes.

Uh oh, I've been seen. Heatherkit thought and crouched down. "Yes Birdbreath." She meowed. "Am I in trouble for ease-dropping?"

"No." Birdbreath said and smiled. "Now come on, let's go to the nursery."

He put his tail around Heatherkit's tail and they walked towards the nursery together.

"Hey." Ladyfierce said looking up as they walked in. Her brown fur was glowing in the dim light that got into the nursery through the walls. She looked over at Heatherkit. "There you are Heatherkit; I was starting to get worried. You were out of the nursery for some quite time"

"Oh…," Heatherkit started, "I was just using the dirt place tunnel. Then I ran into Birdbreath and we started talking." She said and lied down besides her mother's soft belly and looked at her sisters.

Her mother nodded and Wildkit and Hawkkit came over and sat down next to her and both fell asleep.

Heatherkit fell asleep next to them and began to dream.

Chapter 5

Heatherkit woke up with a jolt. She wasn't in the nursery, or any place she knows of. "Hello, anyone here?"

"Heatherkit…Heatherkit...come here. Come here to me…" voices said all around her.

"Who's there?" Heatherkit screamed in fear. She looked around.

There was two path ways in front of her. One leading into a dark deep forest and the other is leading to StarClan. And she knew the voice came from the strange dark forest.

"Heatherkit…Don't be afraid. This forest is kind…and nice. We will make you better. All you want will be in your paws…come, come to us now." The voices said again, freaking Heatherkit out.

The voices continued to tell her to come, over and over again. They didn't stop. She felt as if it was a trap, but her paws forced her to move forwards. The voices continued.

"Heatherkit…come forwarded. You will be destined for powers…come, come over here…come over here now." The voices continued. Heatherkit struggled to stop, but her paws forced her to move forward.

"Stop," Someone yowled, but it was more of a faint whisper other than a yowl.

Heatherkit continued walking, unable to stop. In the forest, red, evil looking eyes started glowing, and evil grins started showing. A group of cats came out with pure red blood on their paws, sharp, sharp claws and deadly looking teeth.

Heatherkit became terrified. She screeched in fear. She wanted to go back but couldn't. Beginning to panic she called for

help.

The groups of cats sunk their claws in her pelt and were already pulling her into the dark, evil looking forest. Heatherkit screamed, hoping she'd wake up but didn't. She knew this was a dream, but it seemed real as she felt real pain and terror.

"Stop this at once Deathfoot!" Someone yowled again, the voice much louder and clearer than a whisper.

Heatherkit looked up at the cat. *Ambertail!* She has come to save her from this horrible nightmare. "Ambertail, help me please," she wailed as the evil cats clawed at her pelt. She smelled blood and screamed again.

Ambertail ran up to her and grabbed Heatherkit by the scruff and took her out of the forest avoiding all the evil cats, and took her onto the path way to StarClan. "You're safe now," she finally said placing Heatherkit down on the soft green ground.

"Why did they want me?" Heatherkit asked innocently looking up at Ambertail.

"So you and your sisters can't fulfill your prophecy. They want to get stronger, and if they took you, it would separate you from your sisters and they would take over the Clans. And, to them, you were the easiest to get."

"Where were they trying to take me?" Heatherkit asked, trying to ignore what Ambertail said because it scared her.

"The Dark Forest, it's the complete opposite of StarClan. All the cats that have warm friendly hearts, follow the warrior code, good, nice cats go to StarClan when they die where they can rest in peace. But, the cats with cold hearts, which are mean, murderous, are evil and break the warrior code, go to the Dark Forest when they die to 'live' in misery. Now, let's take you back home, where you belong." Ambertail said before Heatherkit could reply again.

Heatherkit woke up, tired and cold. Her legs were exhausted, and they were in a lot of pain. *I thought it was just a dream. How*

could I get hurt while I'm dreaming? Or…was I really even dreaming? She wondered feeling confused on what just happened to her.

Her mother had left her a nice warm mouse. Her stomach growled and she bit into the mouse and ate it. When she finished, she licked her paws clean.

It was cold and damp outside. Probably rained, and it might rain again. Heatherkit didn't feel like sleeping, though she was tired. She was asleep for hours, and it felt like she hasn't gotten any sleep at all. She yawned and sat up and stretched.

"Heatherkit, are you okay?" Her mother asked and licked Heatherkit's head.

"Yeah, I'm just a bit tired still, and I'm cold." She lay back down against her mother and sisters and snuggled in with them for the warmth.

Ladyfierce licked Heatherkit's fur and brushed it back. She then gave Heatherkit another warm, juicy mouse. "You must be starving. Here, Eat up."

Heatherkit nodded and took the mouse. She bit into it and she began to feel warm. After finished the mouse, she closed her eyes and fell asleep once more.

Chapter 6

Heatherkit woke up, feeling cold. She got up and yawned. She then stretched and curled back up against her mother.

"Are you feeling all right?" Ladyfierce asked. "You've been whimpering and turning all night. Is something wrong?"

"No, it was just a nightmare." Heatherkit answered. *I can't tell her about the prophecy. She'll think I've gone mad…or can I?* Heatherkit wondered looking up at her mother and smiled.

The sun was rising up. The sky was full of layers of colors. *It's going to be sun high soon,* Heatherkit thought. She once again, got up and walked out the den.

Cats were starting to wake up as well to go on patrol. She saw Featherpaw exiting the apprentices den with her mentor, Grayeye. *They must be going on the dawn patrol.* Heatherkit wondered. *Or a hunting patrol.* She watched Featherpaw and Grayeye leave with a few other cats.

"Hey, what are you doing?" Someone asked.

Heatherkit turned around, to see Ratpaw and Snakepaw behind her. They were much bigger than her, so Heatherkit slowly backed away.

She has heard many things about these two apprentices. Bullies they were. They are trouble makers and are always looking for a fight. Heatherkit gulped thinking that she is their next target.

"Hah, the little kit is scared!" Ratpaw teased.

Heatherkit knew she was in trouble, she sat down. "I am not!" Heatherkit shot back defending herself. Though she knew she was terrified inside, because she knew these two cats caused a lot of trouble.

“Are you sure?” Snakepaw asked, “Because, if you weren’t scared, you wouldn’t back away from us like that.”

Heatherkit grew tense and dug her little claws into the ground. “Just leave me alone.” She turned around, and walked away, hoping that Snakepaw and Ratpaw weren’t following her.

Then Snakepaw grabbed her tail, and dragged her back, pinning her against the ground.

“Hey, let me go this instant! I’m not a play toy!” Heatherkit screeched in fury. She tightly shut her eyes.

“Aw, poor little Heatherkit is all scared.” Ratpaw laughed teasing her.

“Put me down!” Heatherkit screamed. “Ladyfierce, help me!” She didn’t get why other cats weren’t helping her. *Some Clan…*

“Hah, crying for your mommy now!” Snakepaw teased. He let out his claws lightly and Heatherkit winced in fear.

“Hey! Put my sister down!” Wildkit scampered. She ran up to Snakepaw, and bit his tail.

“You call that a bite! That was nothing like one.” Snakepaw taunted and hissed at Wildkit and hit her with his tail.

“You want to know what a bite really is.” Ladyfierce hissed at Snakepaw. She grabbed her daughter, and bit Snakepaw’s back. She then hit him in the head with her paw.

Snakepaw was then left whimpering in pain. Ratpaw slowly backed up, then ran.

“That’ll teach you from messing with my daughter, you skunk bags!” Ladyfierce yelled. She picked up Heatherkit who was panting on the floor and took her the nursery to make sure she was ok.

“Ladyfierce…” Heatherkit began whimpering. “Why were they being mean to me? I don’t get it, I’m a kit.”

“I don’t know sweetie. There just known as the bullies of the Clan. They like to cause trouble.” Ladyfierce responded. She licked Heatherkit’s fur, making sure there were no cuts or blood.

Heatherkit got up once Ladyfierce had examined her. “Ladyfierce am I a wimp?” she asked her mother.

Ladyfierce looked shocked, apparently to hear those words come out Heatherkit. “Of course you’re not dear. One day, you’ll be big enough so they can’t hit you. One day you’ll be a great fighter. You just have to grow. You know you and your sisters are my brave little warriors.” Ladyfierce said, with pride. Her eyes shined in the dim light of the den.

Heatherkit smiled and began thinking, *Ladyfierce is right. I will be a great fighter. I will grow. I am not a wimp. One day I’ll be the one Ratpaw and Snakepaw will respect. I may be their leader some day.* She smiled as she thought toughs words. She knew that someday, she will be the best warrior any Clan has ever had. “Thanks Ladyfierce.” Heatherkit said. “I’m glad I have you to talk to.”

Ladyfierce smiled with pride and nodded. “Now, why don’t you go play with your sisters?”

Heatherkit nodded and with that, she ran out the den.

Chapter 7

Heatherkit left her mother's side and walked around the camp.

It's been three days since the little incident with Ratpaw and Snakepaw, Heatherkit was over it by now.

She felt as if something was happening to her. Like a power rising up in her. She felt as if she can do anything.

"Hey!" Wildkit scampered after her. Her fluffy white fur was jumping up and down as she ran towards Heatherkit. The light shining in her light blue eyes made her seem lively, which she was a crazy kit.

"What is it?" Heatherkit asked tilting her head. She walked up to her sister.

Wildkit sat down, and looked up at her older sister. Heatherkit looked down at her.

"Do you want to play a game?" Wildkit asked, getting up again excitedly. Here blue eyes shined with eagerness and her small claws dug into the ground.

"Sure." Heatherkit replied. "Do you want to play with a moss ball or something? There's a lot in the medicine cat den. I'll go fetch one."

"Okay!" Wildkit replied smiling. She then sat down and waited for Heatherkit to return.

Heatherkit walked into the medicine den, hoping she won't be caught.

Okay…moss balls, moss balls, where are you? Heatherkit thought looking around. She sniffed the air. *Good, no cat sent. It's just stale.*

She crept through the den and found three moss balls. She picked them up and ran out the den. As she ran out, she bumped into Goldenpaw, the medicine cat apprentice.

“Hey! Where do you think you’re going?” Goldenpaw playfully said, not wanting to scare Heatherkit, or sound harsh. It was pretty obvious on how she toned down her voice after one word.

“I’m just going to use these moss balls for a game with my sisters.” Heatherkit replied, hoping she wasn’t going to get in trouble. She smiled as she looked up at Goldenpaw.

“Okay, that’s fine.” Goldenpaw replied, smiling. “Hope you have fun with your sisters.” She smiled as she walked into the den, leaving Heatherkit behind.

Heatherkit walked up to her sisters and dropped the moss balls by her paws. “There, let’s play.” Heatherkit picked up a moss ball with her mouth, through it in the air, and tossed it to Wildkit by hitting the ball with her paw.

Wildkit passed back with her paw. Then Hawkkit joined in. She too hit a moss ball with her paw and tossed it to Heatherkit.

“Pass it here!” Wildkit yelled happily. She stood up on her back legs while Heatherkit tossed the moss ball to her. Wildkit jumped a caught it.

“Good catch!” Heatherkit said and grinned. She waited for the moss ball to come back to her.

“Thanks.” Wildkit said, proud. She tossed the ball to Hawkkit, who passed it back to Heatherkit. Heatherkit then passed it to Hawkkit, and then Hawkkit passed it to Wildkit.

"Do you want to play with all three moss balls now?” Hawkkit asked, picking one up with her mouth.

“Sure.” Heatherkit replied, and then she picked up the second moss ball with her mouth.

“How’s this going to work then?” Wildkit asked. She picked up a moss ball and waited for an answer.

“Simple.” Hawkkit replied. “We through the moss balls, and whoever is hit, are out.” She then tossed the moss ball to Heatherkit.

“Hey!” Heatherkit screeched, and barely dodged the moss ball. She then through hers to Hawkkit and hit her.

“Hey, oh for crying out loud, I’m out!” Hawkkit said with annoyance in her tone. She then walked away, and lied down and watched the rest of the game.

“Wildkit, I’m going to take you down with this moss ball.” Heatherkit playfully said, trying to act like an evil cat who’s about to murder their opponent. She picked up her moss ball, and got ready to through it.

“Not on my count.” Wildkit sneered. She then picked up her moss ball and got ready to through it.

Then, both kits through there moss balls. Wacked the moss balls with their paws and the moss balls flung towards the other. Hawkkit watched. She saw the moss balls about to hit them. Then, the moss ball Heatherkit through, hit Wildkit in the shoulder, but at the same time, the moss ball that Wildkit through hit Heatherkit in the head.

“Both are out!” Hawkkit screamed.

“Fox dung.” Wildkit said. She walked over to the moss balls and picked them up. Then she put them back in the medicine cat den.

Heatherkit frowned. Even though the game was fun, she really wanted to win.

She walked over to the fresh kill den and grabbed a juicy mouse and ate. She was starving.

After she finished the mouse, she decided to do something.

But she didn't know what.

Heatherkit sighed. *What fun can a small kit have when there are hardly any kits to play with? Well, Whitewing's kits are coming soon. And so are Wildheart's. Leopardnose's four kits are becoming apprentices next moon and there no fun.* Heatherkit thought.

She looked over at her sisters who looked tired. Then she was Cattykit and Bossykit walk over to Wildkit and Hawkkit. They started playing, and Heatherkit decided to join it.

"Hey, can I play too?" Heatherkit asked.

"Sure." Bossykit responded. "We're going to play tag."

"What's tag?" Wildkit asked. She looked up at Bossykit.

But it was Cattykit who answered. "Tag is a really fun game. It's when someone is it, and that someone who is it, has to chase the other players." She smiled and said, "So I'll be it."

Heatherkit and the other kits started playing, and continued till the day was nearly over.

Chapter 8

“Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey gather here beneath the High Rock for a Clan meeting!” Firestar stood tall on the High Rock calling down for her Clan to gather around.

Cats began to gather. They all looked up at Firestar, some looking proud. Heatherkit and her sisters ran out of the nursery with their mother.

“What’s going on?” Wildkit asked. She looked at her mother as curiosity twinkled in all kit’s eyes.

“A Clan meeting, that’s what’s going on.” Ladyfierce replied and smiled. She licked her kits fur to make it nice and neat.

Heatherkit tried to escape her mother’s grip. “Stop it Ladyfierce, stop it!” She squirmed around.

“You have to look nice for these events so stay still.” Ladyfierce said and continued to clean her daughters.

Once again, Firestar began to speak. “Today is a very special day.” She spoke, her voice strong and loud. She then looked down and some cats. “Fluffpaw, may you please come up here?” Fluffpaw walked up, her black and white fur, moving as the wind blew against it.

“Birdbreath, you have trained Fluffpaw hard. You have taught her the skills of a loyal warrior. Do you, by the name of StarClan, think she is ready to become a full warrior of the Clan?” Firestar said.

“Yes. She has grown well, learning the warrior code. I say she’s ready to become a full FireClan warrior.” Birdbreath looked proud saying tough’s words. *I’m glad he’s my father.* Heatherkit thought.

Firestar spoke again. “Fluffpaw, by the name of StarClan, do you promise to fight for your Clan, even at the cost of your life?”

“I do.” Fluffpaw replied.

“Then, I give you your full warrior name, Fluffbird!” Firestar shouted.

Soon the whole Clan was calling her new name. “Fluffbird, Fluffbird, Fluffbird, Fluffbird!”

Heatherkit saw her father run up to Fluffbird and congratulated her on becoming a warrior. *One day,* Heatherkit thought, *the cats are going to be calling my name. The warrior name I will receive. Whatever it will be, I will be proud.* She ran over to Fluffbird.

“Congratulations Fluffpa— I mean Fluffbird!” Heatherkit said.

“Thank you.” Fluffbird replied. “Your father was an excellent mentor. He taught me well. And you may have his excellent gift, so one day; you might mentor one of my kits.”

Heatherkit looked at her and smiled. She never new Fluffbird long, but she already knew Fluffbird had a warm heart.

Then a cat screamed. The scream came from the elders den.

“Somebody help! Graystone grew ill!”

Fluffbird looked up. “No, not my father!” she ran to the elders den.

Heatherkit saw Goldenpaw and Moonflower exit the medicine cat den with a load of supplies, and rush in the elders den.

“Will Graystone be ok?” Heatherkit heard Hawkkit ask their mother. Ladyfierce have been friends for a long time. Graystone was Ladyfierce’s mentor.

“I don’t know.” Ladyfierce replied. She started to cry a little.

Heatherkit walked back in the nursery and thought, *wow. What started out as a nice ceremony, ended up a tragic event.* She put her head down, and closed her eyes.

Chapter 9

Heatherkit got up from her nap. Wildkit and Hawkkit were both next to her, asleep, while Ladyfierce was wrapped around them all. It's been three weeks since Fluffbird's warrior ceremony, and her father, Graystone was getting better. It broke Fluffbird's heart when Moonflower told her that his time to join StarClan was very soon.

Heatherkit got up to stretch. It was a little past sun high. The warm sunlight filled the nursery. She got up to hear Whitewing's three new born kits meowing. The kits were born just two days ago, two males and one female. The oldest one was brown, and Grayeye named him Ravenkit. The second one was also brown, and Whitewing named her Mudkit because of her light brown fur that looked like mud. The last one was black. He was the smallest one, and hardly made it through birth. Sharpkit is his name. Heatherkit helped choose the name for him.

"Heatherkit, is that you?" Whitewing woke up and Heatherkit walked past.

"Yeah," Heatherkit said as she sat down by the kits. "They're really cute." Her voice was sweet like sounding. "How's Sharpkit doing?"

"He is doing much better." Whitewing said.

Heatherkit smiled and then left the den.

"Hey Heatherkit," Bossykit said as she walked up to her.

Heatherkit looked up. "Hey. What are you doing?"

Bossykit sat down. "Nothing, I'm just bored out of my mind. Cattykit is tired, and your sisters are asleep. So there is no one to play with."

“So are you saying I’m no fun?” Heatherkit’s ears dropped. She then frowned.

“Well, you always play by the rules. You have to loosen up more. Ignore rules for once.” Bossykit said.

Heatherkit got up and walked away. She did not want to be annoyed by a kit that is older than her. *There is nothing to do here anymore!* Heatherkit thought. She was frustrated. She went over to the fresh-kill pile and grabbed a vole and started to eat.

“What’s bothering you?” a voice spoke.

Heatherkit looked around, “Oh, hi Larkpaw.”

“Are you alright?” Larkpaw asked again.

“Yeah, I’m just upset. I have nothing to do.” Heatherkit gulped down the rest of her meal.

Larkpaw looked at her. “Well, Featherpaw, Tallpaw, and I were going to practice some battle moves in camp. Do you want to come and watch? We can teach you some things, and you’ll be ahead of the other kits when you become an apprentice.”

“Okay, I guess it’ll be interesting.” Heatherkit said. She got up and followed Larkpaw as Larkpaw started to leave.

“Hey, there you are Larkpaw! We’ve been waiting!” Tallpaw said as Larkpaw walked up.

“Hi!” Heatherkit exclaimed happily.

“Hey Heatherkit,” Featherpaw said.

Larkpaw then spoke, “Okay, let’s begin.”

As the three apprentices started training, Heatherkit tried to mimic them. She got a few moves to perfection, and she felt proud.

“Nice job Heatherkit, keep it up at this rate you’ll be an amazing warrior!” Featherpaw said as she was on top of Tallpaw.

Tallpaw then kicked Featherpaw off him. He then snickered.

Heatherkit smiled and leaped on top of Larkpaw and Larkpaw tried to gently wiggle her off.

Heatherkit laughed happily and then jumped to the ground.

As the sun began to set, Heatherkit went back to the nursery to rest.

“How was your day?” Ladyfierce asked as Heatherkit walked into the nursery.

Heatherkit smiled. “It was great!”

Ladyfierce nodded. “Well, that’s good to hear.”

Heatherkit nodded and snuggled up against her mother and sisters and fell asleep.

Chapter 10

“Heatherkit, wake up.”

Heatherkit woke up, her eyes dreary. Her mother woke her up. “What’s wrong?” She asked, stumbling to get up.

Her mother spoke. “Wildheart is having her kits. We have to move a little back.” She picked up Heatherkit and moved her to her sisters while Moonflower was sitting by Wildheart.

Wildheart’s mate, Willowpelt was waiting outside the nursery. Whitewing’s kits started meowing, for now they were one week old, their eyes started to open a bit. Sassytail’s and Leapordnoses kits were all asleep.

Wildheart screeched.

“The first one is coming!” Moonflower called.

The first kit came out. It was a gray she-cat, and looked just like her mother. The only difference was the white paws and muzzle. Soon came the second. It was a white tom with gray paws and a gray muzzle. Wildkit giggled at the fact the two kits were the same, but the colors on their pelts were the opposite.

“Was he the last one?” Wildheart asked.

“Yes.” Moonflower replied.

She and Goldenpaw licked the two kittens clean.

“They’re so cute!” Hawkkit said. She walked over to the kits.

“Don’t go near them.” Ladyfierce warned. “Remember, they were just born, and you’re much older. You might get them sick.

Hawkkit walked back to her mother, and lied down.

Heatherkit was wide awake now. Her brown eyes glowed in the moonlight. “What are you going to call them?” She asked.

Willowpelt walked into the nursery to take a look at his new born kits. He smiled. “Maybe we can call him Frostkit.” He said pointing the white kit.

“And maybe we can call her Mistkit.” Wildheart said looking at the she-cat.

“Those are lovely names.” Ladyfierce said. She curled around her kits, and fell asleep.

Heatherkit nodded with her mother’s comment. She too, along with her sisters, closed her eyes, and fell asleep, and waited for the sun to rise.

The rays of the sun warmed Heatherkit’s pelt as she woke up. She yawned as she got up to stretch. *It’s been a long night.* She thought as she walked to her sisters to wake them up. She looked over at Whitewing’s kit, Sharpkit, and smiled. She thought it was cute as he flexed his little claws and yawned. She then looked at her sisters. “Hawkkit, Wildkit, get up.”

Hawkkit yawned. “What is it?”

“It’s almost sun high. Let’s get something to eat before all the good stuff is gone.” Heatherkit said as Wildkit woke.

“Okay.” Wildkit said. She trotted out of the nursery. Heatherkit and Hawkkit followed.

Heatherkit got to the fresh kill pile and grabbed a big, fat juicy mouse for the three to share.

“That looks good!” Wildkit said. She took a bite out of the mouse, along with Heatherkit and Hawkkit.

“Hey guys!” Featherpaw said as she walked up to Heatherkit and her sisters. “Did you hear Wildheart gave birth to her kits last night?”

“Yeah, we were there.” Hawkkit said.

“I knew that, I just thought you were asleep.” Featherpaw said as she grabbed a vole from the pile. “Now, I have to take this to the elders. See you later.” She then walked away, towards the elders den with the vole.

Heatherkit finished her share of the mouse, and waited for her sisters to finish as well. She sat down and looks at the nursery to see Whitewing’s kits walk out, Whitewing behind them. She murmured something that Heatherkit didn’t catch.

I wonder if they’ll be fun to play with in the future. Heatherkit thought.

As the day went by, Heatherkit and her sisters played around and talked to a few of the older cats. When dark fell, Heatherkit and her sisters walked into the nursery and rested for a good night’s sleep.

Chapter 11

Heatherkit smelled the scent of blood and immediately got up. She wasn't in the nursery, no, but she was in a forest. She looked around, and blood was splattered everywhere. Her brown paws were covered in the hot, sticky, red stuff. She flexed her claws and dug them into the ground. *Where am I?* She thought to herself.

She saw the outline of another cat coming down to her. The cat became clearer, and its amber pelt glowed in the remaining moonlight. It was Ambertail.

"I thought I told you *not* to come here." She said. Her voice was filled with anger.

"I-I didn't." Heatherkit said. "I woke up and I was here."

Ambertail sighed. "You're lucky no one found you here before I did." She said. "Anyway, I'm taking you out of here." Her eyes glowed and Heatherkit woke up once again, and she was inside the nursery, curled up against her mother and sisters.

Heatherkit stood up and woke her sisters.

"What do you want?" Hawkkit asked.

"It's dawn. Let's do something." Heatherkit said.

Wildkit was still asleep, so Heatherkit shook her again.

"What?" she squeaked as she opened her eyes.

"Heatherkit wants to play. But don't you want to sleep, like I do?" Hawkkit said drowsily.

"Yes," Wildkit said and wrapped her tail around her nose.

Ladyfierce, just getting up, shook Wildkit and Hawkkit up again.

“What?” Wildkit said holding out her paws.

“Why don’t you play with your sister outside the nursery?” Ladyfierce said.

“Fine,” Wildkit said as she got up.

Heatherkit smiled at her mother.

“Hawkkit, get up.” Ladyfierce said again. She then rapidly licked Hawkkit’s head until she was fully awake.

By the time Hawkkit stopped fighting with Ladyfierce about staying asleep, the camp alive with cats.

“Come on Heatherkit, let’s just go. Hawkkit’s just being a pain.” Wildkit says.

Heatherkit nods and together they walk out of the nursery.

“Hey, can I play with you two?”

Heatherkit turned around finding Sharpkit running up to them.

“Sure!” Wildkit said.

“What are you going to play?” He asked.

“We’re going to play with the moss balls. Do you want to get them from the medicine cats den?” Wildkit asked him.

“No, I’ll get them.” Heatherkit said and hurried off to the den. She grabbed three moss balls and ran back to Wildkit and Sharpkit.

“How do you play?” Sharpkit asked as Heatherkit gave a moss ball to him.

“Well, you have to throw them. Let’s say I throw one at Wildkit and it hits her, she’s out. If it misses, then you’re still in. I guess it’ll be more fun with more players, but Hawkkit’s being a

pain and doesn't want to play, but sleep." Heatherkit says and hands a moss ball to Wildkit.

"I could get Ravenkit and Mudkit to join us." Sharpkit said.

"Okay." Wildkit says. "I'll get two more moss balls then."

"Get three more just in case Hawkkit decides to play." Heatherkit said.

Wildkit nods and runs off to the medicine cat den. Sharpkit runs off to the nursery and comes back with his brother and sister.

"Hawkkit didn't want to come." He says.

Heatherkit nods and Wildkit comes back with the moss balls and hands one to Mudkit and Ravenkit.

"Thanks." Mudkit said. "Now, how do you play?"

Heatherkit explained the rules again and the kits understood, so they begin playing.

First one out is Mudkit. Then it's Wildkit.

Heatherkit throws a moss ball and it hits Ravenkit in the muzzle. "Out," She exclaimed.

Unexpectedly, Sharpkit tosses his moss ball and it hits Heatherkit at the side.

"I win!" He says and starts to run around in circles.

Heatherkit laughs while watching him.

"Hey, let's play again." Raven kit says picking up a moss ball.

The five cats play on and on for about ten more times. When they are done, Heatherkit walks over to the fresh kill pile and grabs a small juicy vole and eats it. She then grabs a small mouse and brings it over to Wildkit.

"Thanks." Wildkit said and eats the mouse.

“You’re welcome.” Heatherkit said. She looks over at Sharpkit, Mudkit, and Ravenkit who are still playing the game.

“They are so cute and little!” Wildkit said.

“I know. Just wait till they’re apprentices.” Heatherkit said.

“We’re going to be apprentices soon.” Wildkit said and looked at her sister.

“Yes, yes we are. And I’m ready.” Heatherkit replied.

“Do you think there’s going to be a battle soon?” Wildkit then asks.

“I hope not.” Heatherkit replied. “No cat likes a battle.”

Wildkit nodded and gets up. “Well, I’ll see you later. I’m going to join in with Ravenkit.”

“Okay,” Heatherkit said and watches her run off.

Chapter 12

Heatherkit panics as blood fills the forest, and stains her pelt. It's dark, and the stench of blood confuses her senses. All around her, cats emerge from the depths of the forest, with baring teeth and sharp deadly claws with blood plastered over them. "Get away from me!" she screamed. "Please!"

The cats kept coming closer, their teeth snaring and long, loud growls came from their mouths.

Heatherkit backed up finding her bumping into a black cat with glaring red eyes. He growled at her, and swiped his claws at her, scratching her in the face. Heatherkit screamed in pain, which felt so real. Heatherkit crouched down, covering her face with her paws and cried. She felt like such a coward, but she knew she shouldn't feel ashamed. She is still a kit and no one can judge her yet.

The cats continued on walking towards her, and closed in on her. Then a familiar smell broke through the stench of the blood. The new smell was Ambertail's. *Ambertail has come to save me!* Heatherkit thought. She looked up, and no sign of the StarClan warrior. Heatherkit became even more scared, and thought she was going to be stuck here forever. "Ambertail!" she called out, "Ambertail!"

No answer. Ambertail's scent faded in and the stench of blood became stronger. *Ambertail has abandoned me.* Heatherkit thought. She looked around at the cats with blood plastered all over their pelts. "What do you want from me?" she wailed. The cats didn't answer, and finally closed in on her. "Leave me alone!" she pleaded. "Please, leave me alone!"

Just then, Ambertail's scent became stronger and she was hovering above Heatherkit. She picked Heatherkit up, and faded away with her, and into the pathway to StarClan.

“Thank StarClan you are okay. You have to stop ending up in the Dark Forest. Soon you’re going to get killed. It’s the tenth time this has happened.” Ambertail said after she put down Heatherkit.

“I’m sorry.” Heatherkit said. “I’ll try not to wake up in there again.”

“Then try you will.” Ambertail said and faded away.

Heatherkit woke up in the nursery next to her sisters. She could still smell blood, but it was fading away now. Dawn was just breaking, and the dawn patrol was emerging from the camp entrance.

“Hey Heatherkit,” Hawkkit said waking up.

“Hi,” Heatherkit replied.

“What were you dreaming about, you kept kicking me.” Hawkkit said yawning.

Heatherkit shrugged, “Just another nightmare.”

“Heatherkit, you keep having those. And you keep waking up with blood on your face. If it’s about the prophecy, you can tell me,” Hawkkit said licking Heatherkit’s face clean.

Heatherkit just nodded and said nothing else in return.

Wildkit woke up awhile later, her white pelt plastered in blood.

“Wildkit, you have blood on your pelt.” Heatherkit said.

“Yeah, thanks to you. How come you keep staining me with your own blood? Stop having nightmares.” Wildkit says.

“You can’t blame her; these nightmares are based on the prophecy.” Hawkkit said.

“What prophecy?” Heatherkit heard her mother say.

“It’s a part of a game we’re playing.” Wildkit replied quickly. Heatherkit knew that they shouldn’t tell anyone about the prophecy. They shouldn’t trust anyone.

“Okay then, you three go and have some fun. Now run along.” Ladyfierce says.

Heatherkit ran outside of the nursery with her sisters.

“So, you want to play with the moss balls?” Wildkit asks.

“Sure,” Hawkkit replies.

“Firestar, Firestar!” Laptail, the black she-cat warrior called running up to the warriors den.

Heatherkit looked up to see Firestar emerge from her den.

“What is it?” she asked.

“Dogs,” Laptail replied panting. “There are dogs in our territory, about five, three young ones, two adults.”

Heatherkit trailed off, and decided not to hear the rest. She came up with an idea, and wanted to tell her sisters about it immediately. “Wildkit, Hawkkit!” Heatherkit called out to them.

“What?” Hawkkit asked.

Heatherkit slowed down when she was close enough to tell them the idea. “There are dogs in our territory.”

“What?” Wildkit said with a scared tone in her voice.

“Yes. We should get rid of them, go in the forest and chase them off!” Heatherkit said.

“I’m in!” Hawkkit said.

Wildkit looked uneasy, but finally agreed. “I’m going to tell the other kits.”

Hawkkit nodded and so did Heatherkit. Wildkit left and came

back with Frostkit, Mistkit and Sharpkit. “They are the only ones who wanted to come.” Wildkit said.

Heatherkit nodded. “Okay, follow me, we’ll sneak out.” Together, the kits followed Heatherkit and they all snuck out through the dirt place tunnel.

“It smells in here!” Mistkit shrieked.

Once they were out, no other cat was in sight so Heatherkit led the kits away from the camp, and near a small den. The forest is big and smells fresh. Trees are everywhere and birds are flying in the sky.

“Do you know where the dogs are?” Frostkit asked.

Heatherkit shrugged. “Use your senses, a dog’s smell would be a smell we’ve never smelt before.”

“Found them!” Sharpkit squeaked. “They’re in this den. Three of them, and they are pretty young.” He said looking into the den.

Heatherkit walks in, and finds the three young pups, asleep.

“They smell funny.” Wildkit said. "And they look weird."

“Be quiet!” Hawkkit snapped at her.

One of the dogs eyes open, and stares right at it. It then wails and the other two wake up as well.

“This was a bad idea,” Heatherkit says backing up.

“You think? Why did I even agree to this! We’re all going to be eaten!” Hawkkit wails.

“Well, let’s get out of here!” Frostkit yelled and turned around.

Heatherkit turned around too, and found she standing in front of a big black and brown dog who is growling, and teeth are

sharp, and the dog is glaring down at all six cats.

Chapter 13

Frostkit screamed in terror as the dog started barking even louder at Heatherkit and the other kits. She screamed too, along with Frostkit and the other kits joined in.

"Why are we screaming?" Sharpkit asked.

Mistkit looked at him. "Maybe a patrol will hear us and come and save us." Mistkit responded.

That is a good plan. Heatherkit thought. "Help!" she cried out. "Anyone, help us, help!"

Heatherkit smelled a familiar scent coming closer, and saw Birdbreath leap on the dog, along with Firestar and Redtree.

"Out, out, out!" Firestar yelled.

Heatherkit ran out of the dog's den along with the other kits. Firestar stood in front of Heatherkit and her den mates as they crouched down and cowered.

Heatherkit saw her father attack the dog and the dog ran off. She then saw her father pick up the pups from the den, and they each ran after the older dog.

"Redtree, go make sure the dogs get off our territory." Firestar said.

Redtree nodded. "Yes Firestar." He then ran after the dogs.

Birdbreath glared at the kits. "Thank StarClan you kits are safe!" He yelled. "You could have been killed. You broke the code by sneaking off camp to do a warriors job. Heatherkit, Hawkkit, Wildkit, I am *very* disappointed in you." He said and looked at the other kits, "And so will you mothers."

"I'm sorry." Hawkkit said.

“Whose idea was this?” Firestar asked looking down at the kits.

Heatherkit backed down a bit, and Hawkkit and Wildkit look at her.

“Wildkit told us about it.” Sharpkit said with Mistkit and Frostkit nodding in agreement.

Birdbreath glared at Wildkit, a very angry look in his eye. “Wildkit, I would expect much better behavior from you.” He said crossly.

“But it wasn’t me, well, I told Mistkit, Frostkit and Sharpkit, but it was Heatherkit who came up with the idea!” Wildkit said beginning to yell.

Heatherkit was overwhelmed by guilt as she crouched down and avoided her father’s gaze.

“Come on.” He said. “We are going to talk to you mothers about this.” He then walked away, with the kits following with scared looks on their faces.

The kits enter the camp and Ladyfierce, Whitewing and Wildheart crowding together, with Ravenkit and Mudkit, with worried expressions on their faces.

“Sharpkit,” Whitewing calls out with her kits already running towards him.

Ladyfierce and Wildheart follow, greeting their kits.

“Thank StarClan you are okay! I was worried sick about you three!” Ladyfierce said looking down at her kits.

“These six kits have attempted to sneak out of the camp and remove the dogs. I honor their bravery, but they have broken the Warrior Code. They must be punished.” Firestar said.

Other cats in the clearing began to stare, but then looked away, probably wanting no part of this.

Ladyfierce looked at Firestar and nodded. “What kind of punishment did you have in mind?”

“I will postpone their apprentice ceremonies by two moons, for each of them.” She said.

Heatherkit looked up, shocked at what she had just heard. Instead of becoming an apprentice at six moons, she was going to be one at eight moons? *No! This can’t be, I don’t want to be an apprentice later that I should be! I already desperately want to be one now!* Heatherkit thought scared. She looked at her mother who was also shocked.

“By two moons,” Ladyfierce asked. “These kits are still very young, and don’t know better. I forbid you use that punishment.”

Wildheart and Whitewing murmur in agreement.

“That’s so unfair!” Mistkit shirked.

“What’s going on?” Redtree asked as he walked up. “Also, Firestar, the dogs are out of FireClan territory.”

Firestar nodded. “Well, I came up with a punishment and apparently the mothers don’t agree."

“Well, what was the punishment?” He asked.

“It is postponing their apprentice ceremonies by two moons.” Firestar said.

“Firestar, even I agree that’s a little too far. Maybe a more decent punishment will be fine, like having them do some apprentice chores for a month, like cleaning out bedding.” He said.

Firestar tilted her head and nodded, “Fine by me.” She turned to the mothers. “What about you?”

Ladyfierce nodded, and so did Whitewing, and Wildheart looked a little uneasy, but finally nodded.

“Then it is settled, the six of you will be doing apprentice

duties. You may start by cleaning the bedding from the elders den. Get Featherpaw to teach you." Firestar said and walked away towards her den.

Chapter 14

"Hey Wildkit, Hawkkit, do you want to play the moss game or something?" Heatherkit asked as she ran up to her sisters. Heatherkit had just finished cleaning the elders bedding and was finally done, and she wanted to do something fun. She was sure her sisters wanted to play the moss throwing game, they always want to.

Hawkkit shot a glance at her and turned away, not saying anything to her and stormed off. Wildkit also looked at Heatherkit but with the look of hurt in her eyes and followed Hawkkit.

"Hey, what's wrong?" Heatherkit asked catching up to them.

Again, her sisters ignored her.

Heatherkit felt frustrated. *What is wrong with them? Why are they ignoring me like this? Why are they mad at me?* But it was a bit obvious Heatherkit knew and was afraid to admit it to herself. She continued to follow her sisters to know the truth of why they were ignoring her. *It can't be the incident with the dogs! We are still young, it was an accident. They can't be mad at me for that, they agreed to come along!* "Why are you doing this to me?" She yelled at her sisters.

Hawkkit glared at her and turned away. Wildkit whispered something to her that Heatherkit couldn't make out.

"No, I am not going to talk to her! Thanks to her, I have to do apprentice chores! I should be resting in the nursery!" Hawkkit said to Wildkit in a hushed, but loud voice. That's the only thing Heatherkit was able to hear.

"Well, I'm sorry about the dog incident, it was a mistake! Some sisters you are! And I'm not going to talk to either of you ever again!" Heatherkit yelled at them, and with that, she stormed off to the nursery crying.

"What's wrong?" Ladyfierce asked as she watched her daughter walk in.

"It's nothing really; Hawkkit and Wildkit won't talk to me because of what happened yesterday." Heatherkit said.

"Oh Heatherkit, that's not nothing. That's something. They shouldn't ignore you like that, they are you sisters." Ladyfierce said with sympathy in her tone. "Come here."

Heatherkit curled up next to her mother's soft, warm, belly and tried to sleep, and eventually did.

"Heatherkit, what were you thinking, you broke the warrior code! Now you and your sisters are at the edge. You three have to make up, or not only your Clan, but all four may be destroyed!" Ambertail yelled at Heatherkit, sounding worried and angry all at once.

"I'm sorry!" Heatherkit shot back. "It was a stupid idea and I *never* should have done it!" Heatherkit began to wail. "Plus, why would it affect all four Clans in grave danger?" She then asked.

"Because you are the three," Ambertail said. "You three are destined to save the four Clans by sticking together and standing up to the Dark forest cats. If you three don't make up soon, the power between you three will weaken and the cats of the Dark forest will gain that power and take full control, destroying the Clans! The cats will overpower all the Clans and start battles. Cats will be lost. Only you and your sisters can stop it."

Heatherkit stared at Ambertail in shock. She became scared and terrified at this, and felt more determined than ever to try and get her sisters back. But she knew it'll take a lot of convincing, and Ambertail had to tell them too. "Can you tell them that as well? I want to make up, but they are ignoring me."

"I-I can't do that, I won't be able to." Ambertail said and looked away, hiding her embarrassment.

"And why can't you?" Heatherkit asked taking a step

forward.

"Because," she started and hesitated for a while to finish the sentence. "Because I can't get into their dreams, I could only do it if I get into your dreams first and you search for them, which is hard. The reason we were able to do it the first time is because I asked for help — and I wasn't supposed too."

Heatherkit looked at her and sighed. "I'll do the best I can to reassure them. They can't stay mad at me forever."

Ambertail nodded and faded away.

"Mistkit, give that back!" someone yelled waking Heatherkit up.

Heatherkit got up to see Frostkit chasing after Mistkit who has a small mouse in her jaws with Sharpkit right behind their paws.

"Hey, Heatherkit is up!" Sharpkit screeched looking right at Heatherkit as he stopped.

Well, at least it's not a total loss. Heatherkit thought. *At least I still have my friends.* She stood up and ran out of the nursery catching up with them. "You guys aren't mad at me for getting us all in trouble?" She asked.

"Of course not," Mistkit squeaked. "We are being treated as apprentices!"

"It's quite fun to tell the truth." Frostkit added.

"Yeah, all thanks to you." Sharpkit said and smiled.

"Thanks guys. Hawkkit and Wildkit don't seem too happy about it though; can you help me befriend them?"

The three nodded.

"Thanks." Heatherkit replied. "Do you know where they are?"

Instead of an answer, Heatherkit heard a yowl just outside of the camp.

Chapter 15

The scream is suddenly followed up by a loud barking. Heatherkit backed up from Sharpkit, Frostkit and Mistkit and looked around frantically. Cats were emerging out of their dens looking terrified because of this noise.

"What's going on?" One cat yelled.

"What's happening, I thought Redtree scared off the dogs!" Another cat yowled.

Cats started talking and walking around frantically. Heatherkit wondered what was happening, and she could see it in the other kits terrified eyes that they felt the same way.

"I'm scared." Sharpkit whimpered looking up into Heatherkit's eyes.

Heatherkit nodded, "Me too. But you'll be safe, don't worry." She said trying to calm down the scared kit.

"Firestar, Firestar," Someone wailed coming from the dirt place tunnel. The cat turned out to be Hawkkit as she emerged out of the tunnel, looking terrified and scared, "Firestar!" She wailed again.

Firestar emerged from her den towards Heatherkit's sister. "What is it?" she asked. "What happened? Are you hurt?"

Hawkkit shook her head panting. "I'm not hurt but," she stopped between her words to catch her breath. "But Natnoes isn't…dogs…got…him." She said and collapsed on the floor.

"Natnoes," A cat yelled in terror. Heatherkit looked over at the cat who yelled to see Laptail, Natnoes' sister.

Heatherkit ran over to her sister, her mother following. "Hawkkit, are you okay?" she asked nudging her sister with her

paw.

Hawkkit opened her eyes and looked at Heatherkit. She then looked back down and Heatherkit sighed.

“Hawkkit, don’t worry honey, you will be okay.” Ladyfierce softly said to her daughter and Heatherkit watched. She saw Wildkit trembling in the nursery watching them. “Hawkkit, come with me.” Ladyfierce said once more. Hawkkit didn’t move and she just moaned.

“Redtree, Fluffbird, Laptail and Ratpaw, come with me!” Firestar yelled out calling the three warriors and apprentice.

Heatherkit saw Laptail slowly walk towards Firestar, followed by the others. She walked over to Firestar to see what was going to happen.

“Now,” Firestar started. “We will chase away the dogs and see if we can save Natnoes. Laptail—”

She was interrupted by another yowl.

“We don’t have time!” Laptail screeched. “Let’s just go!” she yelled and ran out of the camp. Firestar and the others followed her.

Heatherkit watched as the cats ran out the den. She then ran back to her sister, cats were starting to surround her.

“Hawkkit, Hawkkit…” Wildkit said looking down at her sister, poking her several times with her paw.

“I honestly don’t know how running a short distance can cause Hawkkit to be in this condition.” Heatherkit said.

Before her mother can answer, more screams were heard outside the camp.

Wildkit ran under her father’s belly and crouched down, trembling.

Firestar emerged in the camp a little while after looking sad with the other cats. Heatherkit looked at Laptail who was crying. A tight pain squeezed Heatherkit's stomach and she knew what's going to happen next.

The cats in the Clan look over at Firestar and the others and walk up. Loud gasps and cries of astonishment fill up the camp.

Heatherkit walks up to them knowing what she is going to find and knowing what she is going to see. Looking over past several cats, she sees the dead body of Natnoes. "Oh no…" she muttered. She backed up three steps and then ran towards her mother.

"Heatherkit, what happened?" Birdbreath asked as Heatherkit ran up to them.

"Natnoes is dead!" she winced.

Birdbreath looked down and sighed. "I thought those dogs will cause us to lose someone. But Natnoes, he was so young. He became a warrior two sunrises before you were born, it's a shame that his time to join StarClan is now." He said softly.

Heatherkit nodded. Natnoes' body now has been dragged to the center of the camp and cats are starting to surround him to sit vigil for him.

Heatherkit looks down at Hawkkit who is now conscious again and isn't practically dead. Still ignoring Heatherkit, Hawkkit and Wildkit head off to the nursery with Ladyfierce to get some sleep, leaving Heatherkit alone with her father.

"Don't worry Heatherkit," her father began, "Although we have lost a cat today, he is safe and now living with StarClan. Everything will be alright." He said softly and quietly trying to calm Heatherkit down.

Heatherkit nodded and sighed. "I know, I just feel like I have something to do this. Like, if I haven't gone to those dogs to find them, he wouldn't be dead. You know what I mean?" She asked

looking up at her father.

Birdbreath nodded. “I know what you mean. When my mother died I thought it was my fault. I blamed myself for the Clan not having cat mint, but it wasn’t my fault. And Natnoes’ death isn’t your fault either.” He said calmly.

Heatherkit nodded. “Okay, well I’m still going to sit vigil for him.”

“Alright, but do it later. It’s proper to let his kin sit vigil first.” Birdbreath said looking over at Laptail who was sobbing.

The sun has already gone down and the sky is now filled with stars by the time the cats clear away into their dens.

Heatherkit looked up at the sky and smiled. *I know you are up there Natnoes.* She thought. *Stay safe.* She looked at his body and pressed her nose against his fur. He has now gone cold making it final that he is dead. Though she knew his death wasn’t her fault, she wasn’t sure.

“Heatherkit,” Her mother called. “It’s getting late, come on into the nursery.”

Heatherkit sighed and nodded turning around to face her mother. She looked at Natnoes’ dead body once more. *Oh, why do I feel like this is my fault?* She asked herself and slowly walked to the nursery.

Chapter 16

Heatherkit woke up at the path to StarClan. She shivered. “Ambertail?” she called out looking around, “Ambertail?”

The amber cat appeared and walked up to Heatherkit, looking pretty angry.

“Hi Ambertail,” Heatherkit meowed walking up to her.

Ambertail sat down but didn’t reply. She just glared at Heatherkit, her starry tail tip moving.

“Ambertail how’s Natnoes?” Heatherkit then asked. “Did he safely make it to StarClan?”

This time Ambertail sighed. “Natnoes…he didn’t make it to StarClan.”

Heatherkit stared at her in shock. “What do you mean? Where is he? Where did he go if he’s not in StarClan?” butterflies filled her stomach and she began feeling nervous as if all this was her fault. *Please Ambertail, please don’t say what I thing you are going to say.* Heatherkit then thinks.

“Isn’t it obvious?” Ambertail started off getting up. “He’s in the Dark Forest.” She said and began franticly moving around in circles and moved her tail back and forth.

“The Dark Forest…what,” Heatherkit muttered to herself.

“Yes the Dark Forest.” Ambertail said glancing at her.

“But, Natnoes doesn’t deserve the Dark Forest! He was one of FireClan’s best warriors!” Heatherkit snapped back with disbelief.

“I know, and this is your entire fault!” Ambertail hissed back at Heatherkit.

Heatherkit stared at her, scared. She backed away and crouched down. Ambertail glared at her and arched her back. “How is this my fault?” Heatherkit hissed getting up. She crossed her eyes waiting for an answer.

“I warned you!” Ambertail yelled. “The Dark Forest is getting stronger; they were able to pull Natnoes into it on his way to StarClan,”

“And how is all this my fault?” Heatherkit asked cutting off Ambertail.

“You didn’t let me finish.” Ambertail said. “Because of you breaking the code, you and your sisters bond have been breaking. You three are powerful, and together you are meant to save the Clans. If your bond weakens, the Dark Forest gets stronger. We don’t know what they are planning, but more and more cats from each Clan will be lost unless you don’t fix this.”

“It should be easy then.” Heatherkit said. “I can knock some sense into my sisters; tell them what’s going on.”

“I don’t think so. Naturally, your sisters would have forgiven you. But some StarClan cats think that the Dark Forest cats were able to get into their heads and mess with them so you don’t seem to exist to them. That is why Hawkkit wouldn’t respond to you yesterday.” Ambertail says. “They know you exist, they want to talk with you. They just can’t because they are not able too. Basically they are possesed by Dark Forest cats.”

Heatherkit’s stomach dropped and she can’t focus. *The Dark Forest basically took over my sisters…* She thought. “Ambertail, how can I fix this? I’m just a kit!”

“I know you are.” Ambertail replied. “I’m willing to help you and so is the rest of StarClan. You just have to stay strong and try your best to help your sisters and your Clan. The other Clans have also lost cats.”

Heatherkit nodded. “I will try my best.” She stated. “I’ll try my hardest to save the Clans. I’ll be the first kit to actually do it.”

She then said feeling a little pride in herself.

Ambertail nodded. “Remember, if you end up failing, all the Clans will be no more. Several cats will be lost and others will flee. These are dangerous times for the Clans. You have to try your best.” Ambertail said.

“I will.” Heatherkit said. She looked up into Ambertail’s brown eyes and she looked determined and scared, but ready. “I will not fail you.” She then said.

“I know you won’t.” Ambertail said and nodded and then she faded away.

Heatherkit awoke in her nest. She was alone in there, her mother and sisters outside the nursery. She heard crying and wailing. She got up and padded over to her mother. “What happened?” she then asked looking up at her mother.

“Graystone has died. Poor Fluffbird…” Her mother replied not making eye contact with Heatherkit.

Heatherkit gripped her claws in the ground. “No, no, no, no…” she muttered so no one else can hear her. *If I am to save the Clans, I better act fast. Not much time before the Dark Forest takes over and everyone else dies.*

Chapter 17

Heatherkit laid on her stomach waiting for the Gathering patrol Firestar took to get back to camp.

She would suspect that they would be back a little bit early since the moon and stars had been covered by the dark storm clouds tonight, meaning that StarClan got angry about something during sometime in the meeting.

She thought it had something to do with all the sudden deaths. She felt that deaths had not only occurred in FireClan, but the other three as well.

She watched the entrance as Firestar and her patrol returned.

Cats started too crowed around her to ask what happened at the Gathering today. Heatherkit got up and padded towards Firestar to ask what happened.

“I’ll have a Clan meeting about it.” Heatherkit heard Firestar say to one of the cats crowding around her.

Heatherkit backed away from the crowed as Firestar made her way up onto the High Rock.

Heatherkit noticed Leapordnose and her four— no, now three kits walk out of the nursery.

Poor Spotkit died the other night. Moonflower thought it was because of something she ate because the last thing she ate before she died was a mouse that she found on the bottom of the fresh kill pile. Poor Spotkit, she was going to be made into a apprentice next moon with her sister and brothers.

She then turned her head to watch Firestar.

“Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey gather here below the High Rock for a Clan meeting!” Firestar called out.

Cats were already there looking up at Firestar waiting for her to begin.

“It turns out that we aren’t the only Clan with sudden deaths.” Firestar started.

Some cats gasped. Heatherkit looked around and felt guilty for all these sudden deaths. She sighed.

“Apparently the other Clans have recently lost cats too.” Firestar continued. “GhostClan has recently lost four cats, two kits, one apprentice and one warrior. AirClan has lost two. An elder and a warrior, and PoolClan have lost three, two elders and one warrior, all these deaths in only a matter of about three or so days.”

Cats gasped in shock and fear. Heatherkit heard wails of terror and fear.

“Who will be next to go to StarClan?” one cat yelled.

No, you are wrong. They won’t go to StarClan, but the Dark Forest. Heatherkit thought. *And it’s my entire fault.*

“Silence,” Firestar yelled. “Relax; I’m pretty sure we don’t have to worry, let’s just al stay strong so no one else gets killed. Plus, I am not done.”

The cats calm down and face Firestar once more.

“During the gathering while the discussion of the recent deaths was happening, something strange happened. Two cats from each Clan, except for FireClan, started attacking innocent cats from other Clans for no apparent reason.”

The cats gasped again. Heatherkit turned to her sisters who looked at each other and nodded, snickering. Heatherkit tilted her dead. *What’s up with them?* Heatherkit thought and just shrugged it off and looked at Firestar again.

“We have no idea what happened, but the leader of GhostClan, Duskstar noticed something about those cats. Their eyes have turned black and she thinks that they are being possessed.”

Firestar said and looked down. “We still are uncertain if that’s the case, and it’s most likely not, but just in case, be careful around each other. Be careful when you go out in patrol.” She said and then stepped down from the High Rock.

Heatherkit looked around and saw cats glance at each other. Each cat looked at the other…uncertain.

Heatherkit looked at her sisters her smiled at each other and slipped away from Birdbreath.

No one seemed to focus on them as they walked to the entrance of the camp.

Heatherkit tilted her head and wondered where they were going. *Why are they sneaking out of the camp?* She thought to herself and got up.

She padded close behind her sisters following them knowing that they are going to get in trouble if caught.

Chapter 18

Heatherkit walked behind her sisters, but at a safe distance. It was a long walk, but thankfully Heatherkit managed to stay hidden during the trip.

Where are they going, it's not usual for them to wonder off like that. Heatherkit thought. She was scared for her sisters and hoped that they'll turn out alright.

Wildkit and Hawkkit go somewhere Heatherkit has never seen before, not even in her dreams. They traveled to the edge of the forest.

Heatherkit began to hear voices and she crouched down behind a bush, watching her sisters go on ahead through some bushes. After they left her sight, she walked up to the bush and watched.

She saw six other cats crowded around her sisters and they were all talking about something. She didn't recognize the other cats, they were not from FireClan. It took a short while to notice who they were. The other six cats were cats from the three other Clans, PoolClan, GhostClan and AirClan.

The fur on the back of Heatherkit's neck raised up and she arched her back and flexed her claws, digging them into the soft ground. She let out a quiet his and tried to make herself calm down, but couldn't.

Why are the cats from other Clans in FireClan territory? Heatherkit thought, unable to control her temper.

She managed to shrug it off and she began to listen to the conversation the cats were saying.

"Yes, the Clans will soon be in our control," Wildkit said and let out a mad laugh.

“It’ll all be controlled by us, the Dark Forest will surly thank us,” Hawkkit added in.

Heatherkit’s heart broke and she felt crushed and astonished. *What in the name of StarClan are my sisters doing?* Heatherkit thought. She wanted to yell at them and ask if they lost their mind but at the same time she didn’t want to be caught eves dropping.

“You think very well for two young kits,” a jet black PoolClan warrior said to Wildkit and Hawkkit.

Wildkit and Hawkkit grinned, but their grins are very different from usual. Their teeth seemed very sharp and it’s almost…evil like.

Heatherkit leaned in to take a closer look at her sisters, and was astonished at what she had seen.

Their teeth were razor sharp and pointing.

Their claws were also razor sharp and pointy and with one swipe from them your own skin could be torn and you’d be dead in a second. Their claws had blood on them for some unknown reason, and Heatherkit didn’t want to know why. If her sisters were murderers, she wouldn’t want to know that.

Their eyes were bright blood red with tiny black pulps.

They looked…blood thirsty and evil.

Heatherkit looked around at the other cats and was very astonished and very scared to see the same thing in them, blood thirsty looks in their eyes, blood on their sharp razor like claws and evil like grins.

Heatherkit then realized it…they were being possessed, by Dark Forest cats!

No! No, no, no! This can’t be! Ambertail was right, our Clan is doomed! Heatherkit gasped.

The eight cats turned in her direction.

“I think we are being watched!” An AirClan warrior sneered.

Uh oh, I’m dead. Heatherkit thought and started backing up.

“Don’t worry, we’ll deal with that trespasser,” Hawkkit said and Wildkit nodded in agreement.

No! No, please StarClan, don’t let me die, I’m too young! Heatherkit thought as she turned around to run.

Heatherkit ran as fast as she can, as fast as her little legs could carry here.

Footsteps were heard behind her and she knew that her sisters were gaining on her.

“Get her!” Wildkit yelled.

The next thing Heatherkit knew was that she was tacked by her two sisters and thrown onto the ground.

Chapter 19

Heatherkit struggled to get up, but couldn't. Her sister Hawkkit had her pinned to the ground as her claws dug into her shoulders.

Heatherkit winced in pain.

"Kill her, the faster she dies the better. Then the Clan cats won't know what we are up to," Wildkit sneered.

Hawkkit grinned. She hissed at Heatherkit.

"Hawkkit, stop it! It's me, you sister," Heatherkit called out, begging her sister to stop.

"Silence you kit," Hawkkit hissed into Heatherkit's ear.

Heatherkit screamed for help.

Hawkkit put her paw over Heatherkit's mouth to shut her up, so Heatherkit bit her sisters paw pad and Hawkkit screamed moving it away from her mouth.

Heatherkit wiggled her way out, and used her back legs to push Hawkkit off her. Blood dripped down her shoulders and plaster onto her brown pelt. Once Hawkkit was off of Heatherkit, she scurried up onto her feet before one of her sisters leaped onto her again.

This time, she dodged.

Heatherkit panted, still feeling exhausted. Blood was stained onto Hawkkit's claws. Heatherkit took a step back and Wildkit came towards her, along with Hawkkit.

"Leave me alone," Heatherkit begged backing up.

Hawkkit laughed, but her voice turned into a deep evil

sound.

"Get her," she then said, sounding all evil like.

Wildkit ran up to her, and then she was followed by a group of shadowy evil looking cats which were led by both Hawkkit and Wildkit. Heatherkit screamed and tuned around to continue running.

When Heatherkit turned her head around, she stopped frozen in her tracks.

The shadow cats were gone. *What, they were here a second ago.* Heatherkit thought and tilted her head in confusion.

Hawkkit and Wildkit still looked angry.

"Heatherkit," a female voice said. Ambertail then faded in front of her with a cream colored cat.

"Hello Heatherkit, I am Sweetpelt, Ambertail's sister," the cream colored cat said and nodded her head to the kit.

"We are here to help, let us handle your sisters," Ambertail said and growled.

"Yes, they are being possessed by Dark Forest cats," Sweetpelt then added in.

Heatherkit nodded and crouched down behind a bush.

She watched as Ambertail and Sweetpelt fought with her sisters, slashing their shiny claws at them and biting them… Hawkkit and Wildkit didn't look hurt, but at the same time, they did, which was strange for Heatherkit to see.

Wildkit and Hawkkit soon collapsed onto the ground, and looked…dead. She then saw cats…dark shadowy evil looking cats rise from Hawkkit's and Wildkit's bodies.

No, they are dead!

Heatherkit quickly runs up to Ambertail and Sweetpelt. “What did you do to them? They are dead, I saw their spirits rise, you killed them,” Heatherkit wailed. Before she could say more, Sweetpelt puts her tail over Heatherkit’s mouth shushing her.

“They are not dead young one, just asleep. But when they wake up, they’ll be back to their normal selves,” Sweetpelt said and began to fade away.

“Thank you,” Heatherkit said and dipped her head down.

When she looked back up, Sweetpelt was gone and Ambertail was left.

“Be strong young one, I’ll see you soon,” Ambertail said and faded away.

Heatherkit padded up to her sisters and nudged them awake.

Hawkkit was the first to get up. Her eyes looked normal and so did everything else. “Hey, what happened?” she asked.

“I’ll explain later, first let’s get Wildkit up,” Heatherkit said and pressed her paw against the white kits chest.

Wildkit scurried up onto her feet. “What happened?” she asked. “Where are we? What’s going on?”

“Calm down, you are asking way too many questions,” Heatherkit said looking over to Wildkit. “You safe, that’s all that’s important at the moment,” Heatherkit said reassuring her sisters.

Wildkit nodded along with Hawkkit.

“But, can you at least tell me what happened?” Wildkit slowly asked.

Heatherkit sighed. “Well, you were possessed by Dark Forest cats, almost tried to kill me, and then Ambertail and her sister Sweetpelt came to take out the evil spirits that were inside of you,” Heatherkit said summing everything up.

“What, oh my great StarClan, I’m so sorry Heatherkit!” Hawkkit said.

“It’s okay, but we should get to camp,” Heatherkit said starting to turn around.

The three kits make their way back to camp, trying their best to stay hidden.

“What are you three doing out there?” Firestar asked.

“Firestar, we have some news to tell you,” Wildkit said and entered the camp. Hawkkit followed her along with Heatherkit.

“Well, what is it?” Firestar asked and the three kits explained everything that happened.

After they explain everything, Heatherkit realizes that every cat in the Clan has been listening.

“I believe you,” Firestar said. “We will be sure to watch out, now, get some sleep. You three must be exhausted.”

Heatherkit nods along with her sisters and they padded to the nursery to get some sleep.

“Good night you two,” Heatherkit said and goes to sleep.

Chapter 20

Days have passed and Heatherkit has noticed that things in FireClan have settled down. *Maybe the Dark Forest has surrendered.*

She smiled, but then frowned. Nightpelt, one of FireClan's oldest warriors died just the other day. *So that must mean that the Dark Forest is still strong.*

She then heard laughter. Then she heard a deep evil like voice in the back of her head.

"Hah, that is right young kit; the Dark Forest will never *give up this battle of controlling the four Clans."*

Heatherkit arched her back and the hair on the back of her neck stuck up. She let out a low hiss.

"Heatherkit, something the matter," Ladyfierce asked looking at Heatherkit with curiosity.

Heatherkit looked up and made eye contact with her mother. "No, nothing wrong, I just thought I heard something," Heatherkit said. "Anyway, I'm going to go outside."

Ladyfierce sighed. "Alright, just be careful. Firestar fears that the Clan is getting weaker with all our recent deaths, I don't want anything happening to you."

"Heatherkit, your mother is right, the Dark Forest doesn't want anything bad to happen to you." That same creepy voice said.

Heatherkit flicked her ears and shook her head. "Okay, mother," she said and walked out of the nursery.

When Heatherkit entered the clearing, she noticed something odd about it. It was empty.

"Heatherkit, get in the nursery now, it's dangerous out. We

are not sure what the Dark Forest is planning," Rosepetal, one of the warriors called out, startling Heatherkit making her jump.

Heatherkit nodded and padded back into the nursery.

"That was short," Ladyfierce said as Heatherkit walked in. "What happened?"

"Oh, nothing really," Heatherkit said. "It's just that it's too dangerous out and I can't leave the nursery."

Ladyfierce nodded. "Well then, just get some sleep next to your sisters. If you can't play outside the best thing for you to do is catch up on your sleep that you've been missing out on," Ladyfierce said and licked Heatherkit's fur.

Heatherkit nodded and yawned. "Okay," she said and snuggled up against her sisters and mother.

"Heatherkit, get up," a familiar voice said.

Heatherkit's eyes shot up. "Ambertail?" she asked and scurried onto her feet. "Hey, what's wrong?"

"I have news to say," Ambertail said sitting down on the soft grassy ground.

Heatherkit nodded. "Okay, what is it?"

"The Dark Forest," Ambertail started. "Since your sisters became normal again, the Dark Forest cats have been getting weaker, but some are still in control of other cats. It is not affecting FireClan because of you three, but it's affecting the other three Clans, which is terrible, terrible news."

Heatherkit's claws dig into the ground and she sighed. "How am I supposed to stop this? I know I'm destined for power, but still. I'm just a kit and I can get hurt."

Ambertail nodded. "Trust me, I agree with you. But unfortunately you and your sisters are destined to help up at this point of time," Ambertail said.

Heatherkit nodded. “Alright, just tell me what I have to do.”

“Well, you have to fight the Dark Forest cats out of the warrior’s bodies. But it won’t be affective with you like that; you have to do it through your sleep, along with your sisters,” Ambertail said.

“And,” Heatherkit asked wanting more information.

“That’s basically it. Wake up, tell your sister’s the plan, go back to sleep and I’ll lead you three on from then,” Ambertail said. “Now, I’ll see you later,” she said.

Heatherkit nodded. “Okay, we won’t let you down.”

“I know you won’t,” Ambertail said and then faded away.

Heatherkit woke with a jolt.

“Heatherkit, stop it, you kicking me,” Wildkit complained.

“Sorry, but Wildkit, we have an assignment to do, it was sent from Ambertail,” Heatherkit said.

“Oh, what is it this time,” Wildkit asked.

“You’ll find out soon enough,” Heatherkit said and Wildkit nodded.

Heatherkit then tried to wake up Hawkkit. “Hawkkit, get up,” she begged and Hawkkit finally got up.

“What is it?” Hawkkit asked.

Heatherkit explained to them about the Dark Forest and what Ambertail’s plan is.

“Oh, that seems…hard,” Wildkit said in a low whisper, sounding scared and nervous.

Heatherkit nodded in agreement along with Hawkkit.

“Anyway, get back to sleep, we need to do this and if we

don’t out Clan would be destroyed,” Heatherkit said and crouched down.

Her sisters nod their heads and snuggled up with Heatherkit and eventually the three kits fall into a deep sleep once more.

“There you three are, I’ve been waiting,” Ambertail said as Heatherkit got up, along with her sisters.

“Um, I don’t think we were that long,” Heatherkit said.

“Ambertail, don’t be so harsh,” Sweetpelt said.

“I wasn’t being harsh on them,” Ambertail snapped at her sister.

Sweetpelt let out a light laugh. “Anyway, we are going to be helping you with this quest.”

Heatherkit nodded and looked at her sisters who also nod in agreement.

“Are you ready young ones?” Sweetpelt asked in her sweet soft voice, which calmed down the kits.

Heatherkit nodded. “Yes, I’m ready,” she said.

Ambertail looked over at Wildkit and Hawkkit. “What about you two? Are you ready?”

Hawkkit sighed and nodded. “Well, what do I have to lose?” she said and walked up.

It took a little longer for Wildkit to agree, but eventually she did.

“Okay then, we are all ready.” Ambertail said and then the five cats faded away from the StarClan entrance.

Heatherkit opened her eyes to find herself somewhere she doesn’t recognize.

“Where are we?” Wildkit asked.

“We are at the Gathering Rock, where the Clans hold the gatherings every moon,” Sweetpelt explains. “Six cats here are possessed,” Sweetpelt said. She looked around and smelled the air. “They are coming,” she then said. “They are here.”

Heatherkit hunched her shoulders and prepared herself to attack.

“There they are,” Ambertail said and ran forward.

The next thing Heatherkit knew was an orange tabby she-cat was in front of her.

“Hey little one, looking for your mommy and daddy,” she asked mockingly.

Heatherkit hissed and leaped on the cat.

After a certain amount of time of fighting with her and rolling on the ground with her, Heatherkit saw a dark shadowy figure leave her body and the cat faded away.

Heatherkit got up from the ground panting.

“Very good, very good,” a deep voice said behind her.

Heatherkit whipped around and spotted a black tom behind her.

Heatherkit screamed, he hissed.

Before the tom can do anything, Wildkit and Hawkkit attacked him and they fought with him.

Before she knew it, the black cat had faded away. Looking around, Heatherkit realized that all the cats were gone, they had won and destroyed the Dark Forest cats possessing the Clan cats.

She smiled in victory.

“Well, now that that’s done, I think it’s time to go now,” Sweetpelt said.

Ambertail nodded.

“Will I ever see you again?” Heatherkit asked walking up to Ambertail.

Ambertail dipped her head. “Only time can tell young one, but we will meet again someday.”

Heatherkit nodded. “I sure hope so,” she said and Ambertail and her sister faded away.

Then everything turned black.

“Heatherkit, Heatherkit, we did it, we did it,” Wildkit squeaks excitedly waking up Heatherkit.

Heatherkit got up. “Oh great StarClan, we did,” she said and felt pride rise up in her.

“We have to go tell Firestar,” Hawkkit said and scurried out of the nursery followed by Wildkit.

“So Heatherkit, what is it that you did?” Ladyfierce asked.

Heatherkit smiled. “Help save the Clans,” she said proudly and sat down.

Ladyfierce let out a happy laugh. “Oh, I’m sure you did,” she said and pressed her muzzle of Heatherkit’s head.

Heatherkit smiled and walked out of the nursery.

Heatherkit looked up at the starry sky and smiled. “Thank you Ambertail, for everything. I’ll never forget you, never. I hope we can see each other soon again, but goodbye for now.”

“Goodbye Heatherkit, till next time. Stay brave young one, you are destined for greatness.” Ambertail said and Heatherkit smiled.